

persons have been placed in these shelters. This stocking is a continuing process, and within the next several months we have reason to believe all the shelters will be fully provisioned. Although shelter space for 600,000 persons is an encouraging accomplishment, it falls short, distressingly short, of the amount of refuge that is needed in Maryland. We have hope though that pending legislation in the Congress will assist us in the advancement of the shelter program, and we are all looking forward to a time when complete fallout protection may be offered to all of our people.

I assure you that this Administration is fully cognizant of our civil defense needs and objectives, and that we will continue to follow it closely, with the aim of providing Maryland with the best possible protection for its people. It is with great pride, then, that I now dedicate this magnificent addition to the physical plant of our Civil Defense Agency and Fire Service Extension Department. The fine plant we now have will enhance the opportunities for instructions in both areas of protection. It is the desire, I know, of both Civil Defense and Fire Extension officials that these facilities be used by all Marylanders.

For the generous contributions from the federal government in the construction, and for the cooperative attitude on the part of federal officials in the planning and erection of the project, the people of Maryland are most grateful. In appreciation of their help, we promise them that full use will be made of the center so that it may provide a new asset in the overall defense of our Nation. It is our hope and our prayer that these new facilities which have been built here will be used to enrich the lives of Marylanders of this generation and of generations to come.

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ADDRESS, COUNTY CIVIL DEFENSE DIRECTORS MEETING  
PIKESVILLE

October 11, 1963

General Van Brunt, directors of local Civil Defense agencies, ladies and gentlemen:

I certainly am delighted to be with you this morning at this work session of the annual County Civil Defense Directors meeting. I have been participating regularly in these yearly events, and I expect that any day you will be placing a CD band on my arm. I would in fact, consider it quite an honor. . . .